

**MINUTES OF  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING 6:30 P.M.  
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2016**

---

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, May 19, 2016, at 6:30 p.m., in the County Commission Chambers at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Lewis, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Riddick, Commissioner Sellars and Commissioner Chandler.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Brad Carter, County Manager; Rachel Rhoden, Deputy County Manager, Will Sexton, County Attorney; Ray Norman, Clerk of Courts, Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Brian Johns, Emergency Management Director; Bennie Jackson, Solid Waste Director; Kelly Canady, Community Development Director; Mark Crawford, Press; Capt. Smith; Sheriff Smith; Deputy Clemons, and Sgt. Ray Shuford.

-----

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

-----

Chairman Lewis deviated from the agenda to handle an item under Sheriff's Reports.

**A. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS--SHERIFF SMITH:**

Sheriff Smith presented awards to the following individuals whose heroic actions saved the life of a young woman involved in a vehicular accident:

- **Dawson Johns**
- **Dillon McDonald (Was unable to attend)**
- **Gharrett Ritch**
- **Jake Whitehead (Was unable to attend)**
- **Tyler Thomas**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES**

**--REZONING APPLICATION NO. Z 16-01 (John W. Jackson and Wanda M. Jackson)--RANDY ANDREWS, Zoning Director:** Mr. Andrews presented the ordinance for consideration. He read the title into the record.

Chairman Lewis opened the public meeting. There being no response, the public hearing was closed.

*Commissioner Riddick moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Ordinance approving Rezoning Application No. Z 16-01. (The [Ordinance was assigned No. 2016-04.](#))*

## **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

Mr. Sexton presented each of the following resolutions for consideration. He read each title into the record.

**--CLOSING AND ABANDONING BELMONT STREET BETWEEN BLOCKS 1 AND 2 AND BETWEEN BLOCKS 56 AND 57 (D.W. Oden, Barbara Oden, Edward M. Drow, Michael Davis and Brittany Davis):**

Chairman Lewis opened the public hearing. There being no response, the public hearing was closed.

*Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Resolution as presented.* (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2016-25.](#))

**--CLOSING AND ABANDONING DUKE STREET BETWEEN BLOCKS 1 AND 11 AND BETWEEN BLOCKS 2 AND 10 (D.W. Oden, Barbara Oden, Edward M. Drow, Michael Davis and Brittany Davis):**

Chairman Lewis opened the public hearing. There being no response, the public hearing was closed.

*Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Resolution as presented.* (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2016-26.](#))

**--CLOSING AND ABANDONING ESSIE STREET LYING BETWEEN BLOCK 46 AND AN UNNUMBERED LOT (D.W. Oden, Barbara Oden, Edward M. Drow, Michael Davis and Brittany Davis):**

Chairman Lewis opened the public hearing. There being no response, the public hearing was closed.

*Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Chandler, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Resolution as presented.* (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2016-27.](#))

**--CLOSING AND ABANDONING SAM STREET BETWEEN BLOCKS 42 AND 48 (D.W. Oden, Barbara Oden, Edward M. Drow, Michael Davis and Brittany Davis):**

Chairman Lewis opened the public hearing. There being no response, the public hearing was closed.

*Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Riddick, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Resolution as presented.* (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2016-28.](#))

**--CLOSING AND ABANDONING ST. JOHNS STREET BETWEEN BLOCKS 32 AND 42 (D.W. Oden, Barbara Oden, Edward M. Drow, Michael Davis and Brittany Davis):**

Chairman Lewis opened the public hearing. There being no response, the public hearing was closed.

*Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Resolution as presented.* (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2016-29.](#))

**--CLOSING AND ABANDONING ALLEYWAY LYING WITHIN BLOCK 42 AND BLOCK 45 OF NEW RIVER SUBDIVISION (D.W. Oden, Barbara Oden, Edward M. Drow, Michael Davis and Brittany Davis):**

Chairman Lewis opened the public hearing. There being no response, the public hearing was closed.

*Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Riddick, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Resolution as presented.* (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2016-30.](#))

---

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The following individuals addressed the Commission with comments and questions regarding the **HPSII Phosphate Mining Permit Application and phosphate mining in general:**

The following individuals spoke in favor of the **proposed phosphate mine:**

**Tom Smith  
Willie Hamilton  
Ed Ripplinger**

The following individuals expressed opposition to the **proposed phosphate mine:**

**Jill McGuire  
Duke Dubose  
Brenda Thornton  
Tara Rawson  
Ruth Berkelman  
Brittany Kinsey  
Stasia Rudolph  
Larry Bullock  
Jim Tatum  
Eldridge Hayes  
Merillee Malwitz-Jipson  
Michael Stevens**

**Yuri Brown  
Debbie Davey  
Frieda Kassetas  
Kyle Troutman  
Mary Lou Hildreth  
Valarie Hermann  
Jackie Host  
Jesse Negrón  
Charles Webster  
Carol Mosley  
Courtney Snyder**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF 04-04-16**
- B. MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF 04-21-16**
- C. MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF 05-02-16**
- D. INVENTORY SURPLUS LIST**
- E. CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY (COPCN) WITH BRADFORD COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, EFFECTIVE 07-01-16 UNTIL 06-30-18**
- F. CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION AGREEMENT ON ROAD PROJECT - CR221 (From US301 to US301)**
- G. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A REQUEST FROM SUWANNEE RIVER ECONOMIC COUNCIL (SREC) TO APPOINT BRAD CARTER AS A BOARD MEMBER**
- H. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A SHIP PURCHASE ASSISTANCE LOAN ON FILE NO. 2014-35-S, NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000**
- I. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SHIP REHAB ASSISTANCE LOAN APPROVAL ON FILE NO. 2014-36-S, NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000**
- J. SUWANNEE RIVER ECONOMIC COUNCIL, INC. BUDGET REQUEST FY2016-2017 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,617.00 (No Increase from FY Budget 2015-2016)**
- K. EPISCOPAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES BUDGET REQUEST FY2016-2017 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00 (No Increase from FY Budget 2015-2016)**

*Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Chandler, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Consent Agenda in its entirety.*

---

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS--COMMISSIONER RIDDICK:**

*Commissioner Riddick moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried 5-0, to approve payment of the bills as reviewed.* (The Distribution List is on file in the Finance Department of the Office of the Clerk.)

---

**PRESENTATION OF THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S COUNTY WORK PROGRAM PRIORITIES--BARNEY BENNETT, Transportation Planning Manager and BILL HENDERSON, Planning and Environmental Manager:**

Chairman Lewis announced that FDOT would not be making the presentation at this time.

---

**MERIDIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, INC. BUDGET PRESENTATION/REQUEST FOR FY2016-2017. TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST OF \$110,690.95 (Increase of \$1,095.00 from FY2015-2016)--DR. STEVE PITTMAN, Chief Administrative Officer:**

Chairman Lewis recognized Dr. Pittman, who presented the FY16-17 budget request with a 1% increase to cover cost of inflation. Dr. Pittman briefly reviewed the [Annual Bradford County Data Report](#).

Chairman Lewis advised that the request would be considered during the budget planning process.

**PRESENTATION OF A PLAN TO PROTECT THE WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE SUWANNEE RIVER AND COASTAL BASINS--THOMAS L. SINGLETON CONSULTING, INC. (Consultant for Suwannee River Water Management District):**

Chairman Lewis recognized Mr. Noah Valenstein, Executive Director of Suwannee River Water Management District. Mr. Valenstein briefly addressed the Commission and then introduced Mr. Tom Singleton, who gave a PowerPoint presentation (Suwannee River Water Management District SWIM Plan Updates for Bradford County), reviewing the SWIM (Surface Water Improvement Management) Plan, covering the following:

- Planning and Project Development
- SWIM Plan Updates and District Strategic Plan - Common Goals
- What's Good for the Environment is Also Good for the Economy
- SWIM Program
- Project Objectives
- Project Goals
- Project Schedule
- Status Update on Existing Coastal River SWIM Plans
- Status Update on Existing Suwannee River SWIM Plans
- Santa Fe River SWIM Plan Goals
- Santa Fe River Activities
- Next Steps



---

**COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS--WILL SEXTON:**

- A. REPORT FROM MAY 3, 2016 MEETING OF THE ALACHUA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**
- B. PRESENTATION ON APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL PERMIT FOR MINING (Submitted April 21, 2016 by HPSII, Enterprises)**
- C. REQUEST FOR DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING SPECIAL PERMIT FOR MINING--HPSII, ENTEPRISES**

Mr. Sexton reported that during the May 3, 2016 Alachua County Board of County Commissioners' Special Meeting, the Board extended an offer to provide assistance to Bradford County in working through the application process. This was followed up with a letter dated May 5, which each Board member has received.

As the Board is aware, the County received an application for a special permit for mining (pursuant to Section 14 of the LDR) from HPSII Enterprises on April 21, 2016. Section 14 does not provide specific guidance nor outline a specific procedure to follow once an application such as this is received. Staff is requesting direction from the Board on how to proceed in reviewing and analyzing the application.

(05-19-16 Regular Meeting)

Chairman Lewis advised that the County needs to review the application very carefully. Staff does not have the experience to process a mining application. He recommended having staff check with consultants and provide a recommendation and a cost estimate relative to assistance with review of the application, and that the applicant pay for any consultant expenses.

Commissioner Riddick advised that due to the inconsistencies through this entire process, he would like the Board to consider pulling the permit application. Alachua County's Environmental Protection Director, Chris Byrd made the statement that if this project goes through it would be the largest environmental impact he has ever seen. If the Board does not pull the permit application, then the review process should be as detailed as the County can afford. He agrees that County staff does not have the expertise to properly review this application.

Commissioner Sellars and Commissioner Thompson both concurred with Chairman Lewis' recommendation. Commissioner Chandler agreed that there have been inconsistencies throughout the process and that the application needs to be reviewed very carefully and the inconsistencies corrected.

Chairman Lewis called for additional public comments.

**Alachua County Commissioner Ken Cornell** [read a letter](#) into the record and expressed the Alachua County Commissions' desire to work with Bradford County to avoid any adverse impacts from the proposed mine. Alachua County's Environmental Protection Director, Chris Byrd (or a representative) will be attending all Bradford County Commission meetings.

**Paul Still** spoke in **favor of the proposed phosphate mine** and made some recommendations in moving forward. He also urged the Commission to take advantage of the **SWIM Program**.

The following individuals **expressed opposition to the proposed phosphate mine**:

**Whitey Markle**  
**Greg Roberts**  
**Kimberly Henriksen**  
**Joyce King**  
**Linda Kemp**  
**Drew Strowbridge**

\_\_\_\_\_

**SHERIFF REPORTS--SHERIFF GORDON SMITH:** (Provided at the end of the meeting.)

\_\_\_\_\_

**CLERK REPORTS--RAY NORMAN:** None.

\_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTY MANAGER REPORTS--BRAD CARTER:**

- A. REQUEST PERMISSION TO PAY AN INVOICE FROM CSX IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,245.82, FOR ROAD CROSSING MAINTENANCE/REPAIRS AT NAVARRE STREET AND CR221 RAILROAD CROSSINGS. (The County is responsible for maintenance and repairs to crossings, per a Maintenance Transfer Agreement between the County and FDOT.)**

Mr. Carter presented the invoice for consideration.

*Commissioner Chandler moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to approve payment of the invoice as presented.*

- B. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION NOT TO PAY PAST DUE TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,668.89 ON A SHIP FILE AT ADDRESS 742 N. CHURCH STREET, STARKE, FL--KELLY CANADY, Community Development Director:**

Ms. Canady [made a recommendation](#) to the Board not to pay past due taxes of \$1,668.89.

*Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried 5-0, not to pay past due taxes as recommended.*

- C. REQUEST PERMISSION TO TRANSFER A SHIP REHAB PROJECT (File No. 2014-27-S) INTO A SHIP DEMO/REPLACEMENT PROJECT--KELLY CANADY, Community Development Director:**

Ms. Canady requested permission to transfer SHIP Rehab Project File No. 2014-27-S to a SHIP Demo/Replacement Project.

*Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Riddick, and carried 5-0, to [transfer SHIP Rehab Project File No. 2014-27-S to a Demo/Replace Project.](#)*

- D. REQUEST PERMISSION TO TRANSFER A SHIP REHAB PROJECT (File No. 2014-29-S) INTO A SHIP DEMO/REPLACEMENT PROJECT--KELLY CANADY, Community Development Director:**

Ms. Canady requested permission to transfer SHIP Rehab Project File No. 2014-29-S to a SHIP Demo/Replacement Project.

*Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to transfer SHIP Rehab Project File No. 2014-29-S to a Demo/Replace Project.*

- E. REQUEST PERMISSION TO AWARD A BID ON SHIP REHAB PROJECT FILE NO. 2014-26-S--KELLY CANADY, Community Development Director:**

Ms. Canady made a recommendation to award the bid to Florida Homes, Inc. for \$23,509.00

*Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Riddick, and carried 5-0, to [award the bid to Florida Homes for \\$23,509.00, as recommended.](#)*

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:** None.

---

**CHAIRMAN COMMENTS--EDDIE J. LEWIS:**

Chairman Lewis reported that Bradford County will receive \$230,000.00 as its portion of host fee monies from the Tri-County Landfill. He recommended putting the \$230,000.00 with the unspent milling funds and unspent new equipment funds to help offset the budget deficit.

**SHERIFF REPORTS--SHERIFF GORDON SMITH:**

- Since 1996, the towing service rates have not been increase in Bradford County. The [Florida Highway Patrol adopted new rates effective October 1, 2015](#). These rates are fair and he would like the County to increase the rates. Mr. Sexton can draft something for the Commissions' approval for the next meeting.
- The Veterans' of Foreign Wars have approached him with an offer to donate their facility to the County for use by the Explorer Program.

Chairman Lewis asked Mr. Carter and Mr. Sexton to look into the offer.

---

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA**

---

**EDDIE J. LEWIS, CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**RAY NORMAN, CLERK TO THE BOARD**

Minutes prepared by Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved by BOCC at the Regular Scheduled Meeting of \_\_\_\_\_